

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE.

PUBLISHED BY TRAVIS BROTHERS.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

VOL. I.

CAMDEN, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1890.

NO. 5

THERE is said to be a possibility of war between the American Federation of Labor and the Knights of Labor, growing out of the recent strike.

It is thought by Washington reporters that the President will appoint George W. Steele, of Indiana, governor, and M. W. Reynolds, of Kansas, secretary of Oklahoma Territory.

TEXAS owns more horses than any other State, the Department of Agriculture crediting to her 1,350,344; Illinois is second on the list, with about 200,000 less, whose value is estimated at \$83,301,612.

THE Postmaster-General has ruled that a postmaster who fails to notify a publisher when subscribers change their address or fail to take a paper from the office shall be held responsible for the subscription.

THE laboring classes both in Europe and America are a unit in the demand for a division of the day of twenty-four hours that will secure eight hours for sleep, eight hours for recreation and eight hours for work.

MR. Moss, the Republican postmaster, appointed by General Harrison's grandson has taken charge of the post-office at Jackson, Tenn., and the festive "coon" is having a greasy time, so to speak.—Humboldt Leader.

DEMOCRATIC leaders are predicting that the next House will be Democratic by sixty majority. If the great tidal wave which set in in 1889 keeps rolling there won't be any Republican party by 1892.—Nashville American.

WHILE Memphis candidates are scrambling for the endorsement of Shelby County, Hon. John M. Taylor is quietly scooping in a number of West Tennessee counties, which instruct for him first, last, and all the time.—Memphis Scimitar.

WE do not want to go back to Sunday evening. Mr. Plummer is colporteur of the American Bible Society, and is here to canvass Benton County.

James M. Lashlee and wife, of the tenth district, left last Tuesday for an extended visit to relatives of the latter at Jackson and Meridian, Miss., and whom Mrs. Lashlee has not seen for a number of years. We wish them an enjoyable trip.

Married, a few miles north of Camden, Monday afternoon, at the residence of John Hudson, Zebedee C. Hudson and Miss Mary A. Madden, daughter of John M. Madden. We extend to the happy pair our congratulations and good wishes throughout life.

In response to a telegram, Mrs. Calla Hamer left for Gainesville, Tex., Sunday night, to attend the bedside of her daughter and son-in-law, Mrs. and Mr. J. Mit Bell, who were said to be very sick. We wish that she may find them much improved on her arrival at that place.

Col. J. E. Kehoe, traveling agent for the St. Louis Republic "did" Camden Wednesday. He secured quite a list of subscribers, and the services of Eugene Travis as local agent at this place. Colonel Kehoe is quite clever, and is doing a great deal towards circulating good Democratic literature, as well as the latest and most readable news to be had, among the people. By a special fast train the Republic reaches this place on the same day it is published.

Pensions by Wholesale.

New York World.

The surplus spenders of the House have added to the pension list at one swoop five hundred thousand men—more than a grand army of the great Napoleon. It was the boast of one of the Republicans who supported this service-pension bill that "the total expenditure for pensions would reach \$150,000,000 per annum, or nearly 43 per cent. of the gross income of the Government." This, he added, "was not all he wished to do, but it resulted in a munificent generosity, such as the world had never before witnessed, and exceeding that of all the other civilized nations combined." Is not this a proud boast for a peaceful republic, whose revenues come from taxes upon the people and whose armies were composed of citizens enlisted to defend their own Government? The pension list of the United States will cost, if this bill shall pass the Senate, more than the largest standing army in the world. And instead of diminishing it will increase yearly, as more and more soldiers reach the age of sixty years. The bill is as bad in principle as it is reckless in its provisions. It pensions all equally, without regard to their length of service, their physical condition, or their need of assistance. It makes a discarded virtue of patriotism. It is a bid for votes and not a just or reasonable provision for pensions. And it wipes out the surplus and makes revenue reduction impracticable.

A Hollow Pretext.

A Steubenville, Ohio, dispatch to the New York World, says: J. A. Hill, corresponding secretary of Oak Grove Lodge, No. 22, Farmers' Alliance, lately wrote to ex-President Cleveland, inclosing a copy of the declaration of the purposes of the Alliance, and asking for Mr. Cleveland's views thereon.

"I see nothing in this declaration," Mr. Cleveland has replied, "that can not be fully endorsed by any man who loves his country, who believes that the object of our Government should be freedom, prosperity, and happiness of all our people, and who believes that justice and fairness to all are necessary conditions to its useful administration."

"It has always seemed to me that the farmers of the country were especially interested in an equitable adjustment of our tariff system."

"The indifference they have shown to that question and the ease with which they have been led away from a sober consideration of their needs and their rights as related to this subject have excited my surprise."

"Struggle as they may, our farmers must continue to be purchasers and consumers of numberless things enhanced in cost by tariff regulations. Surely they have the right to say that this cost shall not be increased for the purpose of collecting unnecessary revenue or to give undue advantage to domestic manufacturers. The plea that our infant industries need the protection which thus impoverishes the farmer and consumer, is, in view of our natural advantages and the skill and ingenuity of our people, a hollow pretext."

"Struggle as they may, our farmers can not escape the conditions which fix the price of what they produce and sell according to the rates which prevail in foreign markets, flooded with the competition of the countries enjoying freer exchange than we. The plausible

presentation of the blessings of a home market should not deceive our depressed and impoverished agriculturalists. There is no home market for them which does not take its instructions from the sea-board; and the sea-board transmits the word of the foreign markets.

"Because my conviction that there should be a modification of our tariff laws arose principally from an appreciation of the wants of the vast army of consumers, comprising our farmers, our artisans, and our workingmen, and because their condition has led me to protest against the present imposition. I am especially glad to see these sections of my fellow-countrymen arousing themselves to the importance of tariff reform."

Bank Deposit Lobbyists.

The Knoxville Sentinel calls attention to the fact that the two Republican nominees for Congress in the First District, Roderick Random Butler and Alfred A. Taylor, were conspicuous members of the lobby which undertook the bank depositors' refunding scheme through the legislature in 1887, and says: "A scheme of this sort required engineering. Lobbying became necessary. Senators and representatives were averse to allowing them to charge so large a debt upon their constituents. It was known that most of the deposits had been bought up by speculators. It was believed that they had given only 5 cents on the dollar for them. The merit of the original depositor was small enough; but the speculator was not one-tenth as deserving even as he. Persuasion and influence, therefore, were necessary. They were found. Politicians of acquaintance and experience came forward and volunteered their services in behalf of the depositors' bill."

"As a motive for volunteering, it was said they were to receive half the profits of the scheme. Eight men, four Republicans and four Democrats, were then said to be interested in the measure. Earnestly and zealously they wrought by night and by day for their clients; and as a reward for their fidelity, and a tribute to their ability, the bill passed the State senate, appropriating \$800,000 out of the State treasury to satisfy 50 per cent. of the depositors' claims. It was in vain that the newspapers protested against it; the lobby was too persuasive and powerful and the senate yielded. Seventeen to twelve was the vote, and the roll call showed how successfully the Republican lobbyists had been in their work."

"The bill then went to the house for passage. The Democrats of that body became alarmed at the passage of the bill by the senate, and thirty-four members united in an open letter to the people of the State, calling public attention to this raid upon the public treasury, and inviting popular expression upon the merits of the depositors' bill. The result was the bill was defeated in the house; and the depositors have not yet succeeded in getting the people to assume and pay their losses. Their claims, however, are still in existence—only slumbering; waiting an opportunity to appear and demand recognition and payment; waiting also for the lobby that shall be strong enough to carry not only the senate, but the house of representatives, also."

Two only of the old lobby were East Tennesseans; both were Republicans. That kind only was

needed to lobby East Tennessee members. They worked faithfully and well. The scruples of the honest senators they overcame. Their powers of persuasion were equal to the emergency; and honest and doubtful alike they carried with them. They played for large stakes. Eight hundred thousand dollars is not often on the lobby table. Fifty per cent. of that sum was \$400,000; which divided among eight makes \$50,000 to each of the lobby; or, if the fee was to be only 25 per cent., then it meant \$25,000 to each. No wonder they were earnest and successful in their labors in the lower house of assembly; and but for the hue and cry raised by "Old Man Savage" and his friends, this depositors' claim might have been saddled as a debt upon the people of Tennessee ere this, and the lobbyists been reveling in their ill-gotten gains.

Bull in a China Shop.

Atlanta Constitution on the McKinley tariff bill.

We showed, the other day, how this remarkable bill proposes to increase the duties from the present 45 per cent. on student chimneys, opal shades, and tumblers from 72 per cent. to 450 per cent. There are other articles, also, that should be mentioned. On prisms, silver vases, cold decorated vases, and alabaster vases the duty is increased to from 74 to 334 per cent. Bisque figures will jump from 71 per cent. and toy tea-sets from 35 to 90 per cent. If this enormous increase is made the crockery dealers will have to make their prices correspond in order to take care of their profits, and they know that the general public will not stand it. The pottery and glass-waremen, therefore, with the exception of a few favored manufacturers, are a unit against the bill.

The bull in the china-shop lives again in the person of statesman McKinley.

A Southern Decoration Day.

Jackson Tribune and Sun.

We notice from the press generally that the people throughout the South are preparing for decoration days. On some day in this month or early June, in every community throughout our lovely southland the survivors and descendants, brave men and fair women, will gather to strew the graves of the heroes of a "lost cause" with the beautiful flowers of spring.

It is time the people of the South were adopting a "Southern Decoration Day." There is a National Decoration Day, and we should be as true and loyal to our dead as the nation is to those who fought to sustain the Union.

No braver, truer men ever fought or died for their homes and loved ones than the heroes of the Southern Confederacy, and we should devote one day in the year to their memory and strew their graves with flowers.

Let us have a Southern Decoration Day.

Mormon Elder's Flogged.

Two Mormon elders have been tramping through Washington and Holmes counties, Fla., distributing their religious tracts. They went by the name of elders James and Maxwell, hailing from Utah. They had proselyted to a considerable extent, and especially among young married females. A party of eight women were secured to go West last week. Abram King, living 6 miles from Vernon, had two daughters in the party. King and his son with his neighbors, one of

whose wives was with the converts, pursued the Mormons, and on capturing them tied them to trees, and after stripping them and flogging them unmercifully they then loosened them and began firing on them. The Mormons ran into the swamps and have not been seen since. The young women were returned home and every one of them were well switched, their parents making each one whip the other. The neighborhood has been intensely excited over the event, as there is no doubt but what the elders perished in the swamps.

Rural Inventions Wanted.

Weekly Witness.

This topic is under discussion. An eastern journal is asking what the most valuable economic invention yet to be made will be. Answers from various sources differ. Professor Greeley replies that a cotton-picking machine will be of more economic value than any other. Another answers that a decorticating machine for jute and ramie will be of equal or greater value. Still another thinks it is patent to the western farmer and stock-raiser that the most needed invention in the West is a successful corn-harvesting machine. For, he adds, when that is perfected the 25,000,000 acres of corn in this country will be increased in value from \$5 to \$10 an acre, and the amount of stock that can be kept on farms will be nearly or quite doubled.

People Who Can't Spell.

Cambridge Tribune.

A clever young Harvard instructor was once heard to say: "I rarely never dare correct a student's misspelling till I have looked in the dictionary."

"Just as I," answered a clever woman quickly, "never dare use feeble lest I spell it fee-ble!" The lady was under the impression that the word should be spelled "fee-ble."

A great and universal contempt is felt for the person who misspells. But some of the wisest men, and the best, have had the misfortune of being unable always to marshal their letters correctly.

A Cambridge provision dealer tells of receiving an order for salt "mackerel" from a Harvard professor.

A bill made out by one of the leading pedagogues of a neighboring city, concluded with "balance due." Those who know will tell that the sermons of distinguished clergymen sent up for printing frequently abound in errors of this kind.

Cobbett, in his grammar, loved to give instances of bad spelling and ungrammatical language in kings' speeches. The father of his country had his own system of spelling and his wife had another and very different one. A brilliant actress, whom we all admire, invariably spells Tuesday "Teuesday."

Napoleon was not a correct speller and the Iron Duke slipped often. The misfortune is an inherited one, and whole families unto their remotest branches and twigs will show the same weakness.

"What!" says Major Pendennis, "would you marry a woman who spelt affection with one f?" Why not a woman as well as a man? If correct spelling were necessary to the marriage state she might ask how many of our Presidents would be doomed to celibacy. General Taylor and Andrew Johnson would scarcely have read their title clear to husbandhood.